5

10

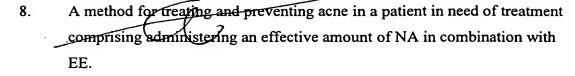
15

20

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of an estrogen together with a progestogen.
- 2. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a fixed quantity of a synthetic extrogen in combination with a synthetic progestin.
- 3. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a fixed quantity of notething one acetate (NA) and ethinyl estradiol (EE).
- 4. A method for delaying the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of compositions containing 1 mg NA and 5 μg EE.
- 5. A method for <u>delaying</u> the onset and treating skin aging in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of 1 mg NA and 10 μg EE in a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
 - 6. A method for preventing and treating acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a composition comprising an estrogen and a progestogen.
 - 7. A method for treating and preventing acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of a synthetic estrogen in combination with a synthetic progestin.



A method of preventing and treating acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of 1 mg NA and a gradually increasing dose of EE; 20 mcg × 5 days, 30 mcg × 7 days and 35 mcg × 9 days.

- 10. A method of Claim 9 wherein acne is acne vulgaris or cystic acne.
- 11. A method of preventing and treating acne in a patient in need of treatment comprising administering an effective amount of Estrostep.
- 12. A method of Claim 11 wherein the acne is acne vulgaris or cystic acne.

10